

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



UNDP

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(RAS/76/003)
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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE
GOVERNMENTS OF BANGLADESH, HONG KONG, INDIA,
INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, NEPAL, PHILIPPINES,
SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA AND THAILAND

Establishment of a Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia
(RAS/76/003)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	May 1979
Starting date of project activities:	June 1979
Planned completion date:	May 1983
To be executed by:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government implementing agencies:	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (Philippines) Bankhen Fish Culture Station of the Directorate of Fisheries (Thailand) Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI) (India)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	\$1 191 800
Source of UNDP financing:	Regional Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Although aquaculture is a traditional industry in Asia, much of the region's current aquaculture production derives from only three or four countries. The industry has suffered from inadequate recognition and support for a long time and it is only in recent years that the Governments have begun to devote attention to this important means of food production. Increased fishing pressure on national fish stocks and the reduced yield from

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conventional fisheries have served to focus attention on aquaculture as a means of meeting fish production requirements in most of the countries of the region. Preliminary analyses of supply and demand for fishery products have shown that aquaculture is the only means of filling the gaps in the amount and future supplies of many of the favoured aquafoods.

II. Objectives and activities

2. The long-range objective of the project is to enable large-scale development of viable aquaculture through the improvement of existing technologies and the development of new techniques and practices in the region, and the development of the necessary technical expertise for implementation of production-oriented projects.
3. The immediate objectives of the project are to: establish three regional Lead Centres (India, Philippines and Thailand) to train senior aquaculturists; carry out research on the more important culture systems to be employed in the region for production programmes; and undertake the collection, storage and dissemination of information. A selected number of existing national centres will be developed for linkage with the Lead Centres for free exchange of experience and expertise.
4. Activities will concentrate in the areas of research, training, equipment procurement, liaison with aquaculture networks in Africa and Latin America.

III. Inputs

5. The international staff will consist of a research co-ordinator who will, with the help of specialist consultants, assist the team in conducting systems-oriented research, review results and maintain proper orientation of research efforts. He will also co-ordinate the activities of the three Lead Centres and associated national centres in order that they function effectively as a network. In addition, there will be a senior aquatic instructor at the Lead Centre in the Philippines to be in over-all charge of training activities.

IV. Financial data

6. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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Personnel	651 800
Equipment	500 000
Miscellaneous	40 000
	1 191 800
